

**TOWN OF WHITESTOWN, INDIANA
RESOLUTION NO. 2017-08**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL ENCOURAGING
THE INDIANA GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ENACT LEGISLATION
PROVIDING IMMUNITY FOR RESCUING AN ANIMAL FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE**

WHEREAS, Town Council for the Town of Whitestown, Indiana (“Town Council”) appreciates the need to protect animals from inhumane treatment and cruelty; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that when temperatures outside range from 80 degrees to 100 degrees, the temperature inside a car parked in direct sunlight can quickly climb to between 130 to 172 degrees; and

WHEREAS, researchers at the Stanford University School of Medicine have found that even on a relatively cool day, the temperature inside a parked car can quickly spike to life-threatening levels if the sun is out, putting to rest the misconception that a parked car can be a safe place for a child or pet in mild weather; and

WHEREAS, studies show that cracking the windows has little effect on a vehicle’s internal temperature; and

WHEREAS, having no sweat glands, dogs and cats pant to lower their body temperature, and if they are inside a vehicle recycling very hot air, panting gives no relief, and heat stroke can happen quickly; and

WHEREAS, heat stroke can permanently damage a pet’s health very rapidly, resulting in coma, organ dysfunction, permanent brain damage or even death; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council encourages the citizens of the Town of Whitestown, in the event they encounter an animal in a vehicle that is in distress or showing signs of heat related illness, to call the police or 911 right away and leave your name and phone number with the person who takes the call in case the responding officers need more information and go inside any nearby business(es) and ask the manager to make an announcement that the owner needs to return to the vehicle immediately; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council supports preventing unnecessary death of animals by providing immunity from liability for property damage to a person who removes a domestic animal from a motor vehicle if the person reasonably believes that the animal is in imminent danger of suffering serious bodily harm; and

WHEREAS, currently proposed legislation in the Indiana General Assembly, namely House Bill 1085, would provide such immunity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Whitestown, Indiana, hereby urges the Indiana General Assembly to enact legislation that provides immunity from liability for property damage to a person who removes a domestic animal from a motor vehicle if the person reasonably believes that the animal is in imminent danger of suffering serious bodily harm.

RESOLVED BY THE WHITESTOWN, INDIANA, TOWN COUNCIL THIS ____ DAY OF MARCH, 2017.

THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF
WHITESTOWN, INDIANA

YAY/NAY

Eric Miller, President

Susan Austin, Vice-President

Kevin Russell

Clinton Bohm

Jeffrey Wishek

ATTEST:

Matthew Sumner, Clerk-Treasurer
Town of Whitestown, Indiana

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